REMARKS

The specification and drawings have been objected to due to informalities. The specification and drawings have been amended appropriately.

Claims 1 and 11 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to conform with 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-3, 6, 9 and 11 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Lai (US Pat. No. 6,763,486); and claims 4, 5, 7, 8 and 10 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Lai and various combinations of Ichie (US Pat. No. 5,050,187), Phillips (US Pat. No. 3,825,682) and Gotoh (US Pat. App. 2003/0046015. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Lai is not an appropriate prior art reference under 35 USC 102 since the filing date of Lai (May 9, 2001) is after the priority date (February 28, 2001) of the instant application. Similarly, Gotoh is not an appropriate reference since it's filing date (February 26, 2002) is after the priority date (February 28, 2001) of the instant application. A Verified English Translation of the application will be provided upon receipt via supplemental amendment.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing attorney docket no. **449122024500**. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: November 24, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By _____
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Attachments
va-85493

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet(s) of drawings includes changes to Figures 1-6.

Attachment: Replacement sheet

Annotated sheet showing changes

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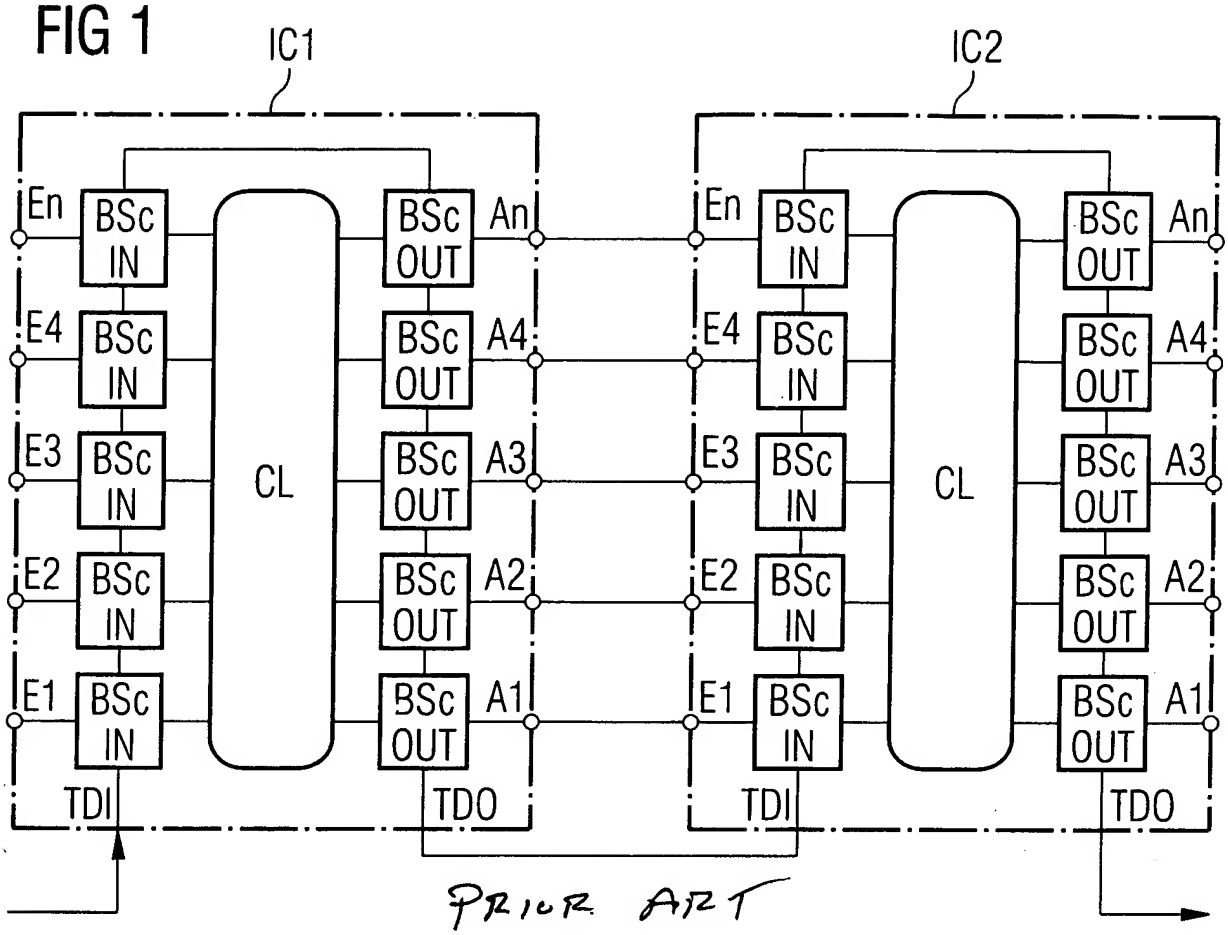
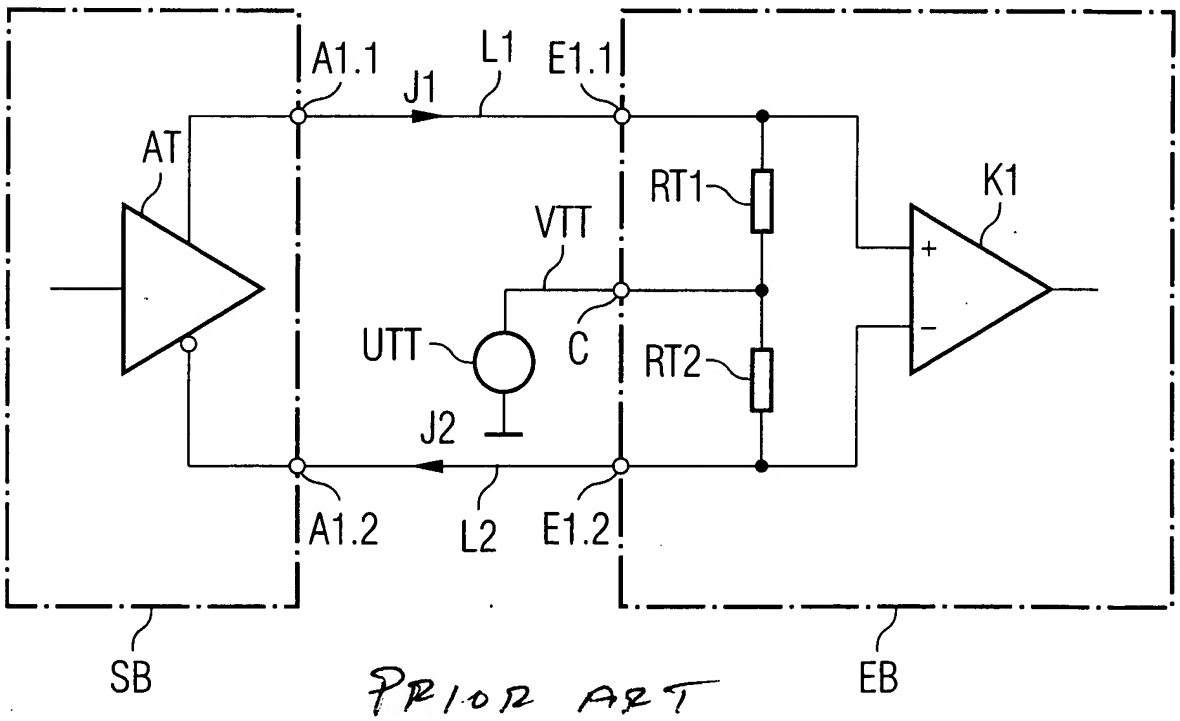
REPLACEMENT SHEET

FIG 1



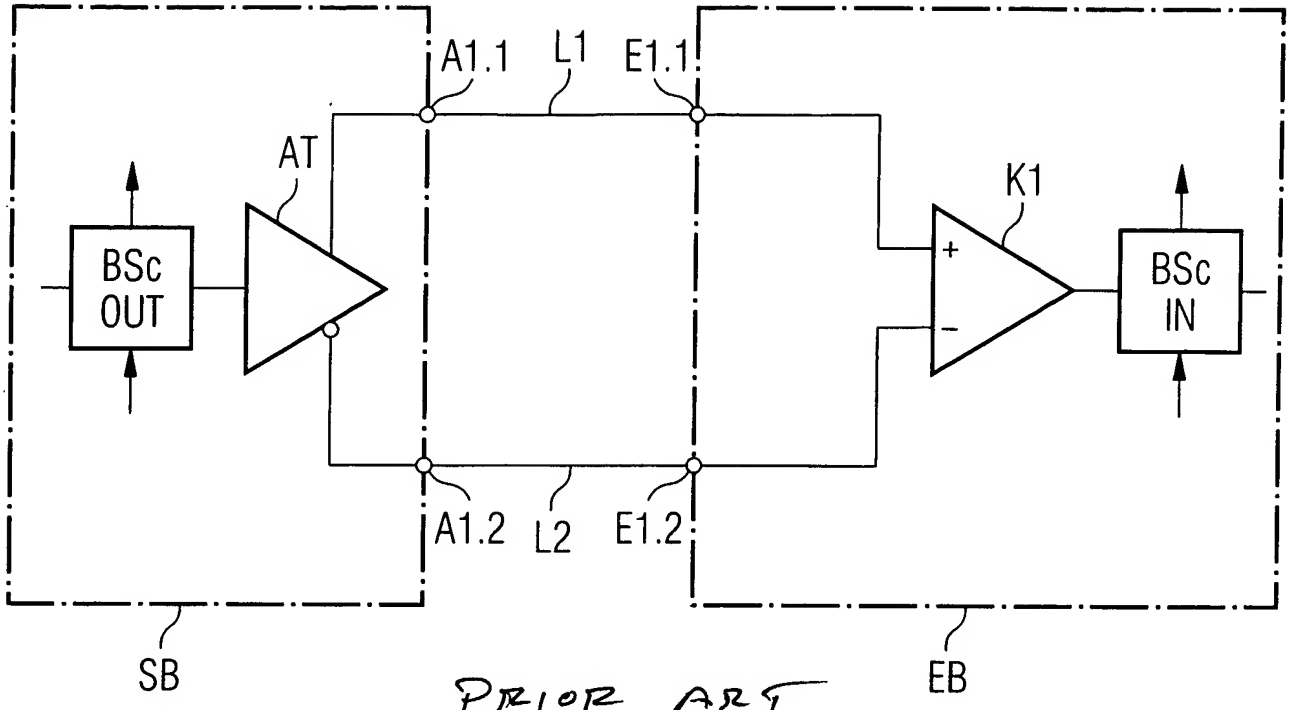
PRIOR ART

FIG 2



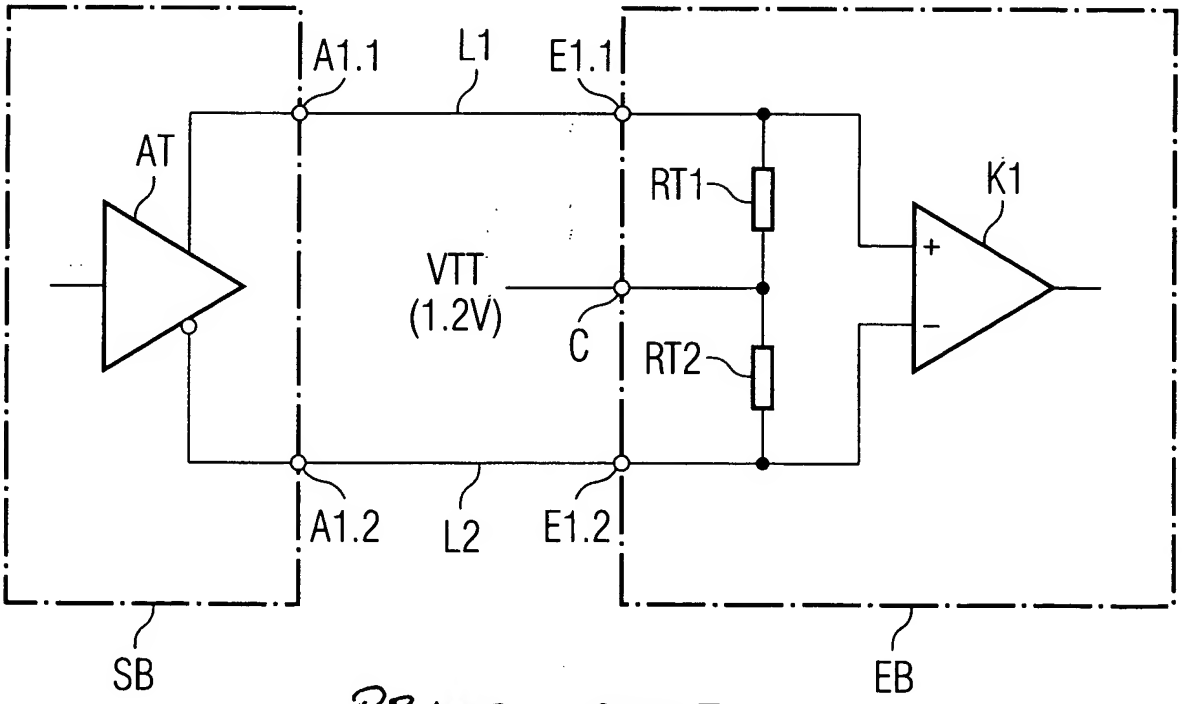
PRIOR ART

FIG 3



PRIOR ART

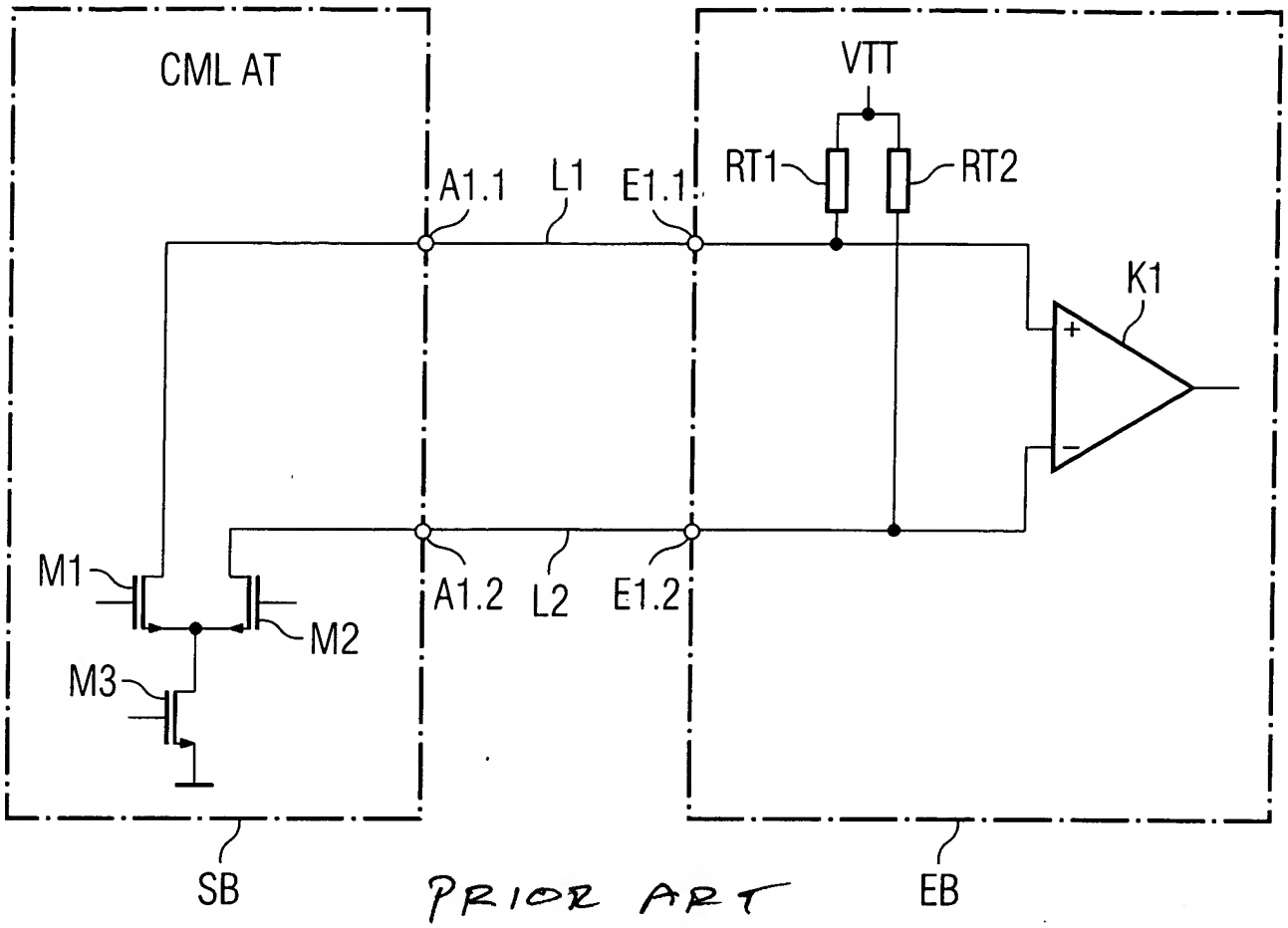
FIG 4



PRIOR ART

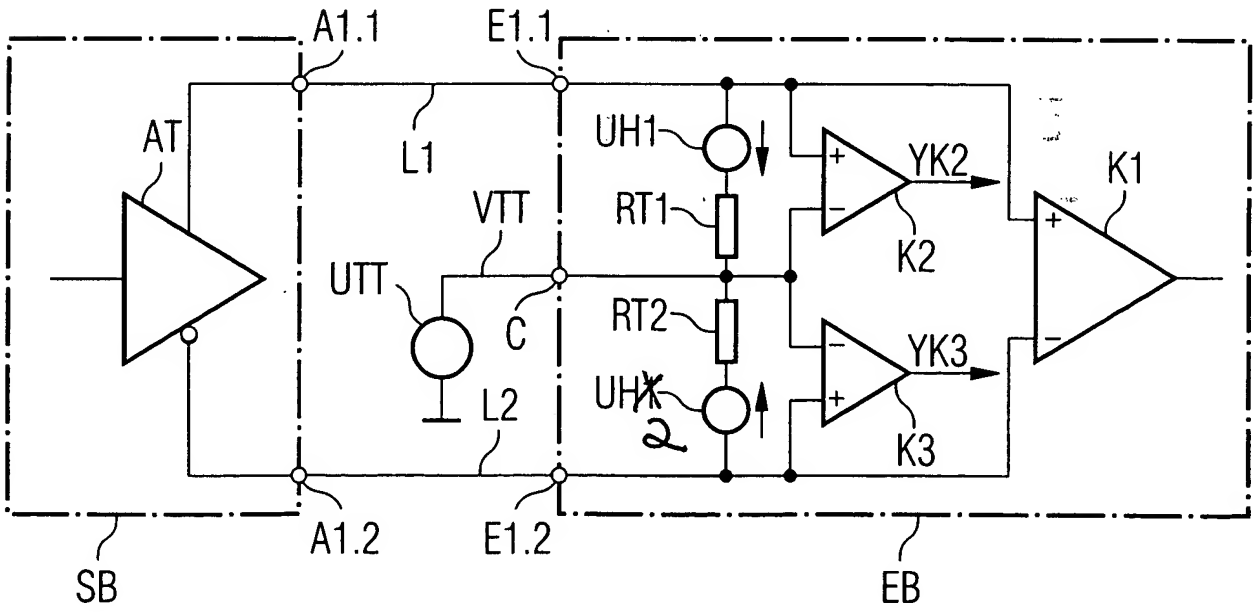
AMENDED

FIG 5



PRIOR ART

FIG 6



AMENDED